

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 NIC-01 SCCT-02 SY-04

USSS-00 IO-14 DRC-01 /116 W
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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5429

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO NIACT IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 5390

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, KS, KN, JA

SUBJECT: PARK ASSASSINATION PLOT

REF: SEOUL 5389

SUMMARY: KILLER OF MRS. PARK NOW ADMITS HE WAS RECRUITED BY CHOSUN SOREN OFFICIAL TO ASSASSINATE PRESIDENT PARK. ROKG PLANS ANNOUNCEMENT THIS EVENING CHARGING KILLER ACTED UNDER INSTRUCTION OF NORTH KOREAN REGIME THROUGH CHOSUN SOREN AND IN COMBINATION WITH JAPANESE COMMUNISTS.

1. AT PRIMIN'S INSTRUCTION, HIS SECRETARY HAN SANG-KUK CALLED ON AMBASSADOR THIS EVENING (AUGUST 17). HAN SAID MUN SE-KWANG HAS FINALLY BROKEN UNDER INTERROGATION AND IS NOW TALKING FREELY.

2. MUN NOW ADMITS HE WAS RECRUITED BY CHOSUN SOREN OFFICIAL IN JULY OF 1972 FOR THE SPECIFIC TASK OF ASSASSINATING PRESIDENT PARK. THIS CAME SHORTLY AFTER THE SOUTH-NORTH JULY 4 COMMUNIQUE. CHOSUN SOREN OFFICIAL WAS KIM HO-YONG WHOM HAN DESCRIBED AS POLITICAL DIRECTOR OF CHOSUN SOREN
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OSAKA CHAPTER. MUN NOW ALSO INDICATES BOTH YUKIO YOSHII AND

HIS WIFE WERE ENLISTED TO SUPPORT MUN IN HIS ASSIGNMENT.

3. MUN SAYS HE WAS ORIGINALLY GIVEN 500,000 YEN TO PROCURE WEAPON HIMSELF. HE ALSO STATES YUKIO YOSHII WAS FULLY AWARE OF HONG KONG VISIT BY MUN AND MRS. YOSHII FOR PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING WEAPON (PARA 3, REFTEL).

4. ACCORDING MUN, ORIGINAL PLAN WAS TO ASSASSINATE PRESIDENT PARK ON SAMIL DAY THIS YEAR BUT GROUP WAS NOT READY. THEN, ON MAY 3 NORTH KOREAN VESSEL (THE MANKYONG HO) DOCKED IN OSAKA AND YOSHII AND HIS WIFE WENT ABOARD TO GET INSTRUCTIONS. ON MAY 5, KIM HO-YONG TOOK MUN ABOARD VESSEL, AT WHICH TIME HE WAS GIVEN A SUM OF KOREAN WON. BEFORE HIS AUGUST 6 ENTRY INTO ROK, MUN WAS GIVEN ADDITIONAL 800,000 YEN BY KIM HO-YONG.

5. IN VIEW MUN'S STATEMENTS HAN SAID ROKG WILL MAKE ANNOUNCEMENT AT 2300 HOURS TONIGHT CHARGING THAT MUN ACTED UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM NORTH KOREAN REGIME THROUGH THE CHOSUN SOREN AND IN COMBINATION WITH JAPANESE COMMUNISTS.
HABIB

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